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TAGS: EFIS

SUBJECT: CANADIAN REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN PACIFIC SALMON REGULATIONS

1. DURING JULY 28 MEETING WITH STATE
AND COMMERCE OFFICIALS, CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES
AND ENVIRONMENT DEPT. REPRESENTATIVE, MIKE SHEPARD,
REQUESTED THAT WE CONSIDER AMENDING THE PACIFIC OFFSHORE SALMON TROLLING REGULATIONS NOW IN EFFECT OR
NEGOTIATE BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, THE 1978 SALMON TROLLING
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REGULATIONS AS A RELIEF FOR THEIR TROLL FISHERMEN.

2. AS PROMISED TO SHEPARD, HIS REQUEST WAS FORMALLY TRANSMITTED TO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (NMFS) ON AUGUST 1 AND WE HAVE NOW RECEIVED FOLLOWING REPLY:

A) IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO AMEND THE 1977 OFFSHORE SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN AS PROPOSED BY CANADA BECAUSE THIS

WOULD CONTRADICT THE BASIC INTENT OF THE PLAN, I.E., INCREASED ESCAPEMENT IN THE OCEAN FISHERY AND THE HARVESTING OF FISH AT A LARGER SIZE. IN ADDITION, PROVIDING GREATER CANADIAN ACCESS TO THE U.S. 3-12 MILE ZONE AS REQUESTED BY SHEPARD WOULD CREATE PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT PROBLEMS, AND COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED ONLY BY A CHANGE IN THE EXISTING RECIPROCAL

FISHERIES AGREEMENT WHICH WAS JUST APPROVED BY CONGRESS AFTER VERY EXTENSIVE REVIEW.

B) IN RESPECT TO SHEPARD'S ALTERNATE PROPOSAL THAT REGULATIONS FOR 1978 SEASON BE NEGOTIATED NOW, WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PACIFIC COUNCIL THAT THE COUNCIL WILL BEGIN CONSIDERING SUCH A PLAN IN SEPTEMBER 1977, AT WHICH TIME HE WILL BE VERY INTERESTED IN PROVIDING CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVES AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH THE COUNCIL AND PRESENT THEIR VIEWS REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT OF SALMON FISHERIES IN 1978. IN ADDITION, PRIOR TO SUCH MEETINGS, THE PACIFIC COUNCIL WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ARRANGING FOR ITS SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE TO MEET WITH CANADIAN SCIENTISTS TO EXAMINE INFORMATION AND DATA CONCERNING THE PACIFIC SALMON FISHERIES. OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT SUCH MEETING COULD BE ARRANGED AT ANY TIME IN AUGUST MUTUALLY CONVENIENT.

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- 3. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO PASS SUBSTANCE OF FOREGOING TO SHEPARD PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR US/CANADA SALMON INTERCEPTION TALKS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 11 AND 12 IN SEATTLE.
- 4. FYI. AT JULY 28 MEETING IN WASHINGTON, SHEPARD ASKED THAT US:
- A) AMEND 1977 SALMON TROLLING REGULATIONS TO EXTEND SEASON, REDUCE SIZE LIMIT, AND ALLOW CANADIANS FISH WITHIN US 12-MILE WATERS SOUTH OF CARROLL ISLAND OR
- B) NEGOTIATE 1978 REGULATIONS OR
- C) SOME COMBINATION OF TWO ABOVE IN ORDER PROVIDE COMPENSATION FOR LOSS SUFFERED BY CANADIANS FROM US CURTAILMENT OF SALMON TROLLING TO FISHERMEN BOTH COUNTRIES.

SHEPARD SAID US SHOULD TAKE ACTION REQUESTED ABOVE BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, WHEN ORDER IN COUNCIL WOULD GO INTO

EFFECT CLOSING VANCOUVER ISLAND SHRIMP FISHERY TO AMERICANS. ORDER IN COUNCIL HAS BEEN SUSPENDED PAST TWO MONTHS WHILE SHRIMP FISHERY CLOSED FOR CONSERVATION PURPOSES TO FISHERMEN BOTH COUNTRIES, BUT SHEPARD SAID IT WOULD AUTOMATICALLY GO INTO EFFECT SEPTEMBER 1 UNLESS US PROVIDED COMPENSATION TO CANADIAN SALMON TROLLERS BEFOREHAND. EMBASSY SHOULD NOT RPT NOT RAISE SHRIMP ISSUE WITH SHEPARD. END FYI.

5. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR OCEANS AND FISHERIES AFFAIRS NEGROPONTE WILL ALSO BE IN SEATTLE FOR INPFC AND SALMON INTERCEPTION TREATY TALKS AUGUST 9 TO 12 AND CAN FURTHER DISCUSS US VIEWS ON SHEPARD'S REQUEST WITH HIM THERE. CHRISTOPHER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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